

CHAPTER III.

And surgy plains of wheat, and ancient woods,
Acres of moss and long dark strips of firs,
And sweet cots, dropt in green, where children played.

—Alexander Smith.

AT KINGSTON—REMOVAL TO HAY BAY.

THE immigrants made their way from Quebec to Montreal and from Montreal to Kingston. In those days no grand steamers and no fast trains could carry them West, but they had to make their slow and toilsome way by means of *battaux*, or Durham boats, which in some places in the river could be sailed or rowed, and in other places pulled through the swifter currents by oxen, while at some points tedious portages had to be made by land to get over the rapids. It took them three weeks to reach Kingston from Montreal.

Arrived in Kingston, Hugh Macdonald and his family determined to settle there, and ventured to open a store in the building now occupied by the Dominion Express Co. This building, which is shown in the engraving, served both as a store and dwelling, and must have been a large establishment for those days. It was somewhat altered in after years, and the sprawling sign was a conception of the later advertising days. For a time, while in Kingston, the family of McArthurs (still living near Kingston), who had come out with them from Scotland, dwelt with them in the same house. The store was a "general store," that is, it contained a little of all kinds of goods, and the stock was purchased in Montreal, from the merchants to whom he had been recommended.

Five years passed away here, and the boy Johnny began to receive the first elements of his education. He went to school for a while to a Scotchman named Pringle, who used to say